

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 02759 261934Z

17

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10

/075 W

----- 116993

R 261402Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7738

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMCONSUL CALI

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

UNCLAS BOGOTA 2759

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, CO

SUBJ: THEMES OF THE LOPEZ PRESS CONFERENCE IN PANAMA: PANAMA ACCORD,
THE OAS, AND CUBA

1. IN A PRESS CONFERENCE IN PANAMA MARCH 24, 1975

PRESIDENT LOPEZ COMMENTED ON VARIOUS TOPICS, INCLUDING THE
PANAMA AGREEMENT, THE OAS AND CUBA.

2. PANAMA ACCORD. CONCERNING THE FOUR-COUNTRY DECLARATION
ON THE PANAMA CANAL, LOPEZ SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME TRYING TO
CLARIFY WHAT COLOMBIA HAD ALLEGEDLY "RENOUNCED". HE SAID
"WE SEEM TO BE CONFUSED OVER THE WORD 'RENUNCIATION'." HE SAID
IMPLIED THAT COLOMBIA HAD NOT REALLY RENOUNCED THE URRUTIA-
THOMSON TREATY: "WHAT WE REALLY HAVE RENOUNCED IS THE
RECEIPT OF BENEFITS IN THE FUTURE FROM THE UNITED STATES
REGARDING TRANSIT OF THE CANAL AT A TIME WHEN THE UNITED
STATES WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO GUARANTEE THEM TO US.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 02759 261934Z

AT MOMENT, WE WILL RECEIVE THEM FROM THE REPUBLIC OF

PANAMA, WHICH WILL BE RECOVERING COMPLETE JURISDICTION OVER THE TERRITORY"..."SO, IN REALITY WE ARE NOT GIVING UP ANYTHING, ONLY RENOUNCING SOMETHING WHICH, AT THAT TIME, THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GIVE US". REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF AN UNFAVORABLE REACTION IN THE U.S. AGAINST THE PANAMA AGREEMENT, LOPEZ SAID: "THE ATTITUDE OF THE UNITED STATES...MUST BE ENTIRELY FAVORABLE BECAUSE WHAT HAS REALLY HAPPENED IS THAT THROUGH THE COMMITMENT WE HAVE JUST SIGNED THE UNITED STATES...IS RELIEVED IN THE FUTURE OF THE DIFFICULTY IT WOULD HAVE HAD TO FACE IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE URRUTIA-THOMSON TREATY IT HAD SIGNED IN 1914". HE SAID THAT COLOMBIA THUS HAD REMOVED ITSELF AS A POSSIBLE OBSTACLE TO AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN PANAMA AND THE U.S. PANAMA'S WILLINGNESS TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITIES VIS A VIS COLOMBIA AND COSTA RICA, HE SAID, OPENS THE ROAD TO STEPPING UP THE PACE OF THE NEGOTIATING BETWEEN THE U.S. AND PANAMA.

3. OAS. ASKED IF COLOMBIA WOULD CONSIDER WITHDRAWING FROM THE OAS IF THE U.S. MAINTAINED COERCIVE MEASURES AGAINST MEMBER COUNTRIES, LOPEZ RESPONDED: "THIS NOT MY THOUGHT. THE IDEAS SHARED BY ALL MEMBERS IS THAT RATHER THAN DOING WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF THE UNITED STATES, WE MUST KEEP THE ORGANIZATIONS WITH ALL OF ITS MEMBERS SUBJECT TO THE SAME RULES, THUS COMPLYING THE STATUS OF THIS ORGANIZATION". IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ABOUT SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER'S ALLEGED POLICY OF SEEKING A DIALOGUE WITH LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE FRAMEWORK OF THE OAS, LOPEZ REPEATED COLOMBIA'S OFT-STAED POSITION THAT OAS BUSINESS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN THE OAS. HE SAID: "MEMBERS OF A CLUB DO NOT HAVE TO GO TO A CAFE ACROSS THE STREET TO MEET".

4. ON CUBA, LOPEZ SAID THAT THE RENEWAL OF RELATIONS BETWEEN CUBA AND COLOMBIA ELIMINATED AN ARTIFICIAL SITUATION OF APPEARING NOT TO HAVE RELATIONS WHILE CARRYING OUT TRADE. HE SAID THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN EXPORTING PRODUCTS TO CUBA THROUGH ITS MULTINATIONAL FIRMS IN CANADA AND MEXICO.

VAKY

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, PRESS CONFERENCES, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BOGOTA02759
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750106-1245
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750315/aaaaanga.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: woolfhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by leeperne>; APPROVED <05 JAN 2004 by woolfhd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THEMES OF THE LOPEZ PRESS CONFERENCE IN PANAMA: PANAMA ACCORD, THE OAS, AND CUBA
TAGS: PFOR, CO, CU, PN, OAS, (LOPEZ MICHELSSEN, ALFONSO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006